

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 022272

21

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 PCH-02 /056 R

DRAFTED BY EA/P:STAFF:PP

APPROVED BY EA/P:MSMITH

----- 105761

R 302312Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

TREASURY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

INFO USSAGE NKP

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COGARD

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 022272

COGARD FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 30 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA

BOMB THREATS CAUSE EVACUATION OF SEVERAL FEDERAL BLDGS
IN WASHINGTON. BOMB REMOVED FROM FEDERAL OFFICE
IN OAKLAND AFTER PHONE TIP. FBI INVESTIGATES DOS BOMBING,
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 022272

SEEKS INFO ON "WEATHER UNDERGROUND." GROUP MENTIONED
IN PHONE CALLS IN NY, LA, SP AND WASHINGTON THAT OLD OF
BOMBS; IN THESE CITIES LETTERS FOUND SAYING BOMBS PLANTED
"IN RETALIATION AGANST" ADMIN PROPOSAL O SEND 522 MILLION

DOLS IN EXTRA MIL AID TO SVN AND CAMBODIA. LETTERS ALSO ACCUSED US OF C-F SABOTAGE AND AID OF HELPING GVN BILK VIETS WITH HIGH FOOD PRICES AND BUILD "CONCENTRATION CAMPS." DOS BLAST, FROM BOMB PLACED IN THIRD-FLOOR MEN'S ROOM, DAMAGED AID EA OFFICES, AMONG OTHERS. SECSTATE CALLS BOMBING "TOTALLY SENSELESS ACT; (BINDER, NYT; SIMILAR STORIES IN GLOBE; WP'S COHEN/HODGE; PHINQ; AP BALTO N-A 1/29 AND SUN; KOZIOL IN CHITRIB; CARTER IN NYDN).

DART (LAT 1/25) SEES NATION'S RELIGIOUS PEACE MOVEMENT ATTEMPTING TO BUILD RENEWED SUPPORT FOR OLD CAUSE. CITES THREE-DAY ASSEMBLY IN WASHINGTON, PASTORAL LETTER SIGNED BY 36 CLERGY ADVOCATING ABIDING BY C-F AND ENDING MIL AID TO SVN. QUOTES DON LUCE ,HAT 300 MILLION TO GVN

CAN'T CHANGE OUTCOME, AND THAT ULTIMATE SOLUTION WILL BE POLITICAL ONE INVOLVING GVN, "THIRD FORCE," AND PRG. LUCE ALSO TOLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES MEETING TUESDAY THAT US HAS "MORAL OBLIGATION" TO HELP NVN. ADDED HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE CHURCHES INVITE SOME NORTH VIETS TO US.

CSM'S HEY (1/29) BELIEVES RISING CONGRESSIONAL OPPOSITION MAKES IT INCREASINGLY UNLIKELY US WILL GIVE SVN EXTRA 300 MILLION. QUOTES MANSFIELD THA OPPOSITION TO IDEA HAS GROWN IN WEEKS SINCE FIRST FLOATED. SAYS NEVER POPULAR," PLAN IS IN TROUBLE WITH CONGRESS. PRIME REASON SEEMS TO BE FEELING AMONG LEGISLATORS THAT THEY'VE HAD IT" WITH DRAIN OF REPEATED FINANCIAL AID TO SVN, ACCORDING SEVERAL CONGRESSIONAL SOURCES.

WP REPORTS WH PRESS SECY SAYING PRES TOLD CABINET ADMIN FULLY SUPPORTS REQUEST FOR 522 MILLION FOR SVN AND CAMBODIA. REMARK APPARENTLY INTENDED TO SQUELCH SPECULATION PRES DID NOT HAVE HEART IN REQUEST, BUT WANTED CONGRESS TAKE BLAME FOR KLLING IT.

SUN'S KUMPA NOTES PRES "STRONGLY SUGGESTED" IF CONGRESS UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 022272

FAILED PROVIDE REQUESTED MIL AID TO SVN AND CAMBODIA, IT WOULD DAMAGE US DIPLOMATIL EFFORTS ELSEWHERE. SAYS PRES TOLD CABINET HE WOULD FIGHT FOR REQUESTS EVEN THOUGH WARNED CHANCES SLIM. BELIEVES IF REPS PREPARING BLAME DEMS FOR ANY FUTURE LOSS OF SVN TO COMMUNISTS, DEMS READY TO BLAME SAIGON GOVT. QUOTES PRES THAT IT WOULD BE "VERY TRAUMATIC" IF DISASTER IN VN NEXT SIX MONTHS, AND THAT ODDS FAVOR DISASTER "IF WE DON'T DO ANYTHING."

CANNON (WP) REPORTS ROCKEFELLER AT WEDNESDAY MORRISTOWN NJ FUND-RAISING DINNER THAT CONGRESS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR GVN COLLAPSE IF IT FAILS PROVIDE ADDITIONAL 300

MILLION. QUOTES VP THAT IF WE DON'T, AND COMMUNISTS TAKE OVER AND "MILLION PEOPLE LIQUIDATED, WE KNOW WHERE THE RESPONSIBILITY WILL LIE." ROCKY LATER SAID HE INTENDED PUT US PEOPLE ON NOTICE THAT IF SVN FALLS, BLAME LIES WITH US. CANNON NOTES SPEECH WAS ORIGINALLY INTENDED AS PEP-TALK, BUT WAS CHANGED AFTER VP LUNCHEDED WITH HAK WHO SAID NATION'S WORD WOULD NOT BE RESPECTED IN WORLD UNLESS IT HONORED COMMITMENTS TO SVN.

NYT'S MARKHAM IN SAIGON QUOTES COSVN DOCUMENT, RELEASED TO PRESS BY US EMBASSY, THAT 1975 IS "TURNING POINT" BUT NOT END OF STRUGGLE IN SVN. COMMENTS THAT NO WAY TO ESTABLISH INDEPENDENTLY AUTHENTICITY OF DOCUMENT,

BUT LANGUAGE AND ARGUMENTATION SIMILAR TO EARLIER COMMUNIST DIRECTIVES. SAYS RESOLUTION AND COMPANION DOCUMENT FROM BINH DINH PROVINCE INDICATE STEP-UP IN MIL ACTIVITIES IN 1975 BY COMMUNISTS. QUOTES COSVN DOCUMENT THAT FORCES MUST WIPE OUT ENEMY, EXPAND AND IMPROVE LIBERATED AREAS, GAIN LOWLAND POPULATION, AND BUILD UP FOR LARGE-SCALE OFFENSIVE "WHEN THE NEED ARISES." BUT DOCUMENT FORESEES POSSIBILITY OF GVN WEAKENED ON BATTLEFIELD, COMPELLED TO "CLING TO" C-F AND IMPLEMENT "SMALL PARTS" TO SAVE DETERIORATING SITUATION. DOCUMENT STATES IF GVN DOES NOT WANT TO CARRY OUT C-F, "WE WILL HAVE TO WAGE A DECISIVE REVOLUTIONARY WAR," AND SEES BALANCE OF POWER TIPPING FAVORABLY IN 1975 THAT WILL LEAD TO VICTORY.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 022272

IN SAIGON, MCCOMBS (WP 1/29) QUOTES THIEU, IN LENGTHY EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW, THAT HE WON'T GIVE UP; CITES HIS APPEALS TO CONGRESS FOR MORE AID INCLUDING STATEMENT 300 MILLION IS MINIMUM TO AVERT "DISASTROUS SITUATION." DESCRIBES THIEU AS COURAGEOUS, FIRM AND SURE OF HIMSELF. HIEU HOLDS OUT LITTLE HOPE FOR PEACE IN SVN BECAUSE OF GRIM COMMUNIST INTENTIONS, SAID HE WANTS FREE ELECTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH C-F, IS UNCONDITIONALLY READY TO RETURN TO NEGOTIATIONS, BUT SUGGESTS HE IS UNPREPARED TO GIVE FURTHER CONCESSIONS. MCCOMBS REVIEWS C-F AND CALLS BY NVN AND OPPOSITION GROUPS FOR HIEU EXIT. QUOTES THIEU THAT HE SIGNED C-F BECAUSE IT PROVIDED "BASIS FOR PEACE," AND THAT GVN NOT "STUBBORN OR DEMANDING" WHILE COMMUNISTS HAVE REJECTED SCHEDULES FOR ELECTIONS.

THIEU STATED COMMUNISTS HAD LAUNCHED GENERAL OFFENSIVE; WHEN ASKED, SAID THAT HE DID "NOT YET" FEEL BETRAYED BY US. CONCERNING MIL AID, HE SAID SVN WOULDN'T NEED ANY IF NVN RESPECTED C-F. ON ECON AID, SAID SVN WOULD NEED SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT TO ACHIEVE TAKE-OFF, BUT OIL

PROSPECTS BRIGHTEN PICTURE. POINTED OUT US BUDGET DID NOT ALLOW ONE-FOR-ONE REPLACEMENT OF MIL EQUIPMENT PERMITTED UNDER C-F. NOTED C-F NEVER MENTIONED COALITION GOVT, AND DECLARED ANY SVN REGIME WOULD BE ESTABLISHED THROUGH FREE ELECTIONS.

THIEU SAID HE HAS NOT YET MADE DECISION ON RUNNING AGAIN THIS YEAR. FLATLY STATED ,HERE ARE NO POLITICAL PRISONERS; NOTED CENSORSHIP AND POLITICAL PARTY LAWS BEING LIBERALIZED. POINTED OUT HE HAS BEEN FIGHTING CORRUPTION FOR YEARS, HAD PROCLAIMED IT NATL DANGER AND SHAME, AND RECOUNTED STEPS HE HAS TAKEN TO FIGHT

IT, WHILE COMMUNISTS USE CHARGE TO DISCREDIT GOVT. ABOUT CIA, THIEU SAID HE KNOWS IT OPERATES IN SVN BUT DOESN'T INTERFERE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS. DENIED VNAF HLANES HAD ASSISTED MEKONG CONVOY TO PP, AND CHARGED NVN TROOPS IN LAOS IN CONTRAVENTION OF C-F UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 022272

THERE. ASSERTED NVA WITHDRAWAL FROM SVN WOULD PERMIT POLITICAL SOLUTION WITH VC. STATED HE WANTS ELECTIONS UNDER C-F TO TAKE PLACE N SHORTEST TIME POSSIBLE. ON REOPENING PARIS DISCUSSIONS SOON, THIEU WAS PESSIMISTIC. SAID PHUOCBINH LOST BECAUSE OF LACK OF TACAIR SUPPORT AND CHOPPERS. STATED FIELD SOLDIERS CONSTANTLY COMPLAIN ABOUT AMMO SHORTAGE. DENIED THERE ARE ANY SECRET PEACE TALKS GOING ON, SINCE "QUITE UNLIKELY" WITH COMMUNISTS ON OFFENSIVE.

SVN MIL SOURCES DESCRIBE AIRCRAFT AND AMMO SITUATION AS CRITICAL, DESPITE REPORTS THAT RECENT GOVT OFFENSIVES HAVE SUCCEEDED IN REDUCING MIL ACTIVITY (REUTER, GLOBE). FIGHTING REPORTED AT LOW EBB; GVN COMMAND SAID 175 COMMUNISTS AND 36 ARVN KIA IN PAS DAY (UPI, CHITRIB). COMBAT IN SVN AT LOW LEVEL FOR FOURTH STRAIGHT DAY (WP). GVN COMMAND REPORTED SHELLINGS 18 MILES NORTH OF SAIGON AND AT TAY NINH (REUTER, GLOBE).

SIX SHIPS OUT OF 16-VESSEL CONVOY REACH PP WITH FOOD, AMMO AND FUEL. REPORTS OF FATE OF OTHER TEN VARIED; PP PORT OFFICIALS SAID ONE TANKER SUNK, ANOTHER BEACHED, AND FREIGHTER ABANDONED WITH BROKEN RUDDER. EARLIER REPORTS SAID TWO SHIPS SUNK AND ONE ON FIRE. SVN MIL SPOKESMAN STATED REBEL FIRE KILLED TWO CONVOY CREWMEN. PORT OFFICIALS SAID TWO TANKERS, TWO AMMO BARGES AND TWO RICE BARGES ARRIVED PP (AP, SUN; WP; UPI, CHITRIB). GKR SPOKESMAN SAID UNLOADING OF 2000 TONS OF RICE HAD BEGUN TO REPLENISH CITY'S DWINDLING FOOD SUPPLY (UPI, GLOBE).

GKR MIL COMMAND REPORTS REBELS CONTINUED ATTACKS ON
POCHENTONG, FIRING EIGHT ROCKETS THAT KILLED ONE (WP).

HANOI ANNOUNCES IT SENT MEMO TO UN AND VARIOUS GOVTS
MARKING SECOND C-F ANNIVERSARY. MEMO ACCUSED GVN
AND USX "OF SABOTAGING C-F, WITH US "MASTERMIND" AND
THIEU "CLIQUE" IMPLEMENTING OLAN TO CONTINUE WAR.
ASSERTED THAT VC HAD BEEN FORCED O ADOPT "APPROPRIATE"
MEASURES TO PUNISH THIEU'S ACTS OF WAR" BECAUSE IT
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 022272

WANTS TO COMPEL C-F IMPLEMENTATION (WP).

2. CHINA

FROM PEKING, KYODO REPORTS TENG HSIAO-PING HAS BEEN NAMED
PLA GENERAL STAFF CHIEF, AND CHANG CUN-CHIAO APPOINTED
PLA POLITICAL COMMISSAR (CHITRIB). AP (TOKYO) SEES
CHOU APPARENTLY WIDENING POWER BASE FOR HIS MODERATE
POLICIES WITH SELECTION OF HIS PROTEGE AND DEPUTY PM,
ENG. NOTES NO OFFICIAL PRC ANNOUNCEMENT, BUT THAT
ASAHI SHIMBUN ALSO REPORTED TENG APPOINTMENT AND SAID
INFO CONFIRMED BY CHINA FORNMINISTRY. AP ADDS THAT
IF REPORTS OF TENG, CHANG APPOINTMENTS CORRECT, CHOU
HAS COMPLETED PROCESS OF RESTORING CHINA TO SEMBLANCE OF
NORMALCY FOLLOWING GPCR (GLOBE, NYDN).

PEKING NEWS DISPATCHES (WP) SEE APPOINTMENTS DEM
<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE022272
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EA/P:STAFF:PP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750036-0125
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750189/baaaagpf.tel
Line Count: 245
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 APR 2003 by MarshK0>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, XC, US
To: ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
TREASURY
MOSCOW
BIEN HOA
CAN THO
DANANG

HONG KONG
NHA TRANG
JEC PARIS INFO USSAGE NKP
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
COGARD
BUDAPEST BY POUCH
XMT SUVA
RANGOON

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006